

**OPINION 2272 (Case 3484)****NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 (Insecta, Coleoptera): spelling emended to NOMIUSIDAE to remove homonymy with NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904 (Insecta, Hymenoptera)**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that homonymy between the Coleoptera family-group name NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 (type genus *Nomius* Laporte, 1835) and Hymenoptera family-group name NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904 (type genus *Nomia* Latreille, 1804) be removed by changing the spelling of the senior name (the entire generic name of *Nomius* is used to form NOMIUSIDAE), while the hymenopteran family-group name (based on *Nomia* Latreille, 1804) remains unaltered.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Hymenoptera; Coleoptera; CARABIDAE; NOMIIDAE; NOMIINAE; NOMIUSIDAE; *Nomia*; *Nomius*; *Nomia curvipes*; *Nomius graecus*; *Morio pygmaeus*; ground beetles; sweat bee; Nearctic; Palaearctic; Afrotropical; Asia; Australia.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is hereby ruled that for the purposes of Article 29 of the Code the stem of the generic name *Nomius* Laporte, 1835 is *Nomius*-.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *Nomius* Laporte, 1835 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy *Nomius graecus* Laporte, 1835;
  - (b) *Nomia* Latreille, 1804 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Andrena curvipes* Fabricius, 1781.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *pygmaeus* Dejean, 1831, as published in the binomen *Morio pygmaeus* (senior subjective synonym of *Nomius graecus* Laporte, 1835, valid specific name of the type species of *Nomius* Laporte, 1835);
  - (b) *curvipes* Fabricius, 1781, as published in the binomen *Andrena curvipes* (specific name of the type species of *Nomia* Latreille, 1804).
- (4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology:
  - (a) NOMIUSIDAE Gozis, 1875, type genus *Nomius* Laporte, 1835 (spelling emended by the ruling in (1) above) (Insecta, Coleoptera);
  - (b) NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904, type genus *Nomia* Latreille, 1804 (Insecta, Hymenoptera).
- (5) The name NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 (spelling emended to NOMIUSIDAE, as ruled in (1) above) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology (Insecta, Coleoptera).

### History of Case 3484

An application to remove homonymy between the family-group name NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 (Insecta, Coleoptera), a senior homonym of NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904 (Insecta, Hymenoptera), long-considered to be a synonym of PSYDRINA LeConte, 1853, by emending the stem of the generic name *Nomius* Laporte, 1835 on which the beetle family-group name is based, to give NOMIUSIDAE, was received from Michael S. Engel (*University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, U.S.A.*) and Patrice Bouchard (*Canadian National Collection of Insects, Arachnids and Nematodes, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, ON, Canada*) on 15 December 2008. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 66: 30–33 (March 2010). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

### Decision of the Commission

On 1 March 2010 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 66: 31. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2010 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes – 22: Ballerio, Bogutskaya, Bouchet, Brothers, Fautin, Grygier, Halliday, Harvey, Krell, Lamas, Lim, Minelli, Ng, Pape, Papp, Patterson, Rosenberg, Štys, van Tol, Winston, Yanega and Zhou.

Negative votes – 2: Alonso-Zarazaga and Kullander.

Split vote: Kottelat voted FOR proposals (1), (2), (3)(b), (4) and AGAINST (3)(a) and (5).

Kojima abstained. Pyle and Zhang were on leave of absence.

Voting AGAINST, Alonso-Zarazaga said he felt that the authors should have respected the Principle of Priority and not affected the name NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875, which is perfectly constructed. In his view a more acceptable proposal would have requested modification of NOMIIDAE Robertson, 1904, which is a later name, to NOMIAIDAE. Also voting AGAINST, Kullander said that the proposal did not explain the etymology of *Nomius* or *Nomia*, which might have provided more options for family names. Kottelat explained his split votes AGAINST in detail. He voted AGAINST (3)(a) because *pygmaeus* is not the type species of *Nomius*; the type species is *graecus*, as stated in (2)(a), suggesting that *graecus* should be the name placed on the Official List; he voted AGAINST proposal (5) because after the decision in (1) NOMIIDAE Gozis is not a name but an erroneous original spelling of NOMIUSIDAE Gozis. Logically and semantically, a name cannot be at the same time listed as a valid name under one spelling and as an invalid name under another spelling. It is one or the other, but not both. This is a gross confusion of the words 'name' and 'spelling', as explained in the ICZN Glossary. And as the Indexes of Names and Lists of Names are for listing names, spellings cannot and should not be listed. Kojima ABSTAINED, saying that suppression of NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875 could be a simpler solution.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists and Indexes by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*curvipes*, *Andrena*, Fabricius, 1781, *Species insectorum, exhibentes eorum differentias specificas, synonyma auctorum, loca natalia, metamorphosin, adjectis observationibus, descriptionibus*, p. 182.

*Nomia* Latreille, 1804, *Nouveau Dictionnaire d'Histoire Naturelle, appliquée aux arts, principalement à l'agriculture et à l'économie rurale et domestique*, Tome 24 [vol. 24], p. 182.

NOMIIDAE Gozis, 1875, *Catalogue des coléoptères de France et de la fauna Gallo-Rhénane*, 2, p. 3.

NOMIINAE Robertson, 1904, *Canadian Entomologist*, **36**: 42.

*Nomius* Laporte, 1835, *Études entomologiques, ou descriptions d'insectes nouveaux; et observations sur leur synonymie*, p. 144.

NOMIUSIDAE Gozis, 1875, *Catalogue des coléoptères de France et de la faune Gallo-Rhénane*, 2, p. 3.

*pygmaeus*, *Morio*, Dejean, 1831, *Species général des coléoptères, de la collection de M. le Comte Dejean. Tome cinquième*, p. 512.